

## CONSEQUENTIAL VALIDITY

### **Math Placement Satisfaction Survey - Students and Faculty's views on placement based on the Mt. SAC Math Placement Test**

Both students and faculty were surveyed regarding their opinions on the appropriateness of student placement based on the Mt. SAC Math Placement Test. The survey was conducted during the 6<sup>th</sup> week of fall semester 2013. Students and faculty from the four levels of math courses were surveyed. A total of 975 students who had been placed in the courses based on their initial placement results are included for this study.

Math faculty were asked to rate all students enrolled in their class on their level of preparedness for this particular class.

Survey choices for faculty were:

- This student is not prepared and should have been advised to enroll in a lower level course.
- This student is prepared and belongs in this course.
- This student is prepared to enroll in a higher level course.

Students were asked to rate themselves, based on their own judgments, if they believed the placement has been appropriate.

Survey choices for students were:

- I should have been advised to enroll in a lower level course.
- I belong in this course.
- I should have been advised to enroll in a higher level course.

Based on ratings at each level, faculty were at least 75% satisfied with the placement of students in all four math courses while students had lower satisfactory ratings on their placement, especially in MATH 50.

<b>Fall 2013 MATH Faculty Placement Satisfaction Survey by Course</b>			<b>Should be Placed Lower</b>		<b>Belong at the level</b>		<b>Should be Placed Higher</b>	
<b>Placement Course</b>	<b>Total Surveyed</b>	<b>Total Survey used (by initial placement &amp; 1<sup>st</sup> attempt)</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>
LERN48	192	114	10	8.77%	99	86.84%	5	4.39%
LERN49	757	601	59	9.82%	488	81.20%	54	8.99%
MATH50	628	293	32	10.92%	248	84.64%	13	4.44%
MATH51	1018	211	28	13.27%	164	77.73%	19	9.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2595</b>	<b>1219</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>10.58%</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>81.95%</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>7.47%</b>

Fall 2013 MATH Student Placement Satisfaction Survey by Course			Should be Placed Lower		Belong at the level		Should be Placed Higher	
Placement Course	Total Surveyed	Total Survey used (by initial placement & 1 <sup>st</sup> attempt)	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
LERN48	153	88	1	1.14%	71	80.68%	16	18.18%
LERN49	675	495	8	1.62%	379	76.57%	108	21.82%
MATH50	529	238	0	0.00%	132	55.46%	106	44.54%
MATH51	807	154	1	0.65%	126	81.82%	27	17.53%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2164</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1.03%</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>72.62%</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>26.36%</b>

As the results indicate, student placement satisfaction for Math 50 raises the biggest concern. The fact that the pass rate of students placed in Math 50 is 71% compared to 59% of other students may indicate a need to review the MATH test cut score for Math 50 placement.

Course Success Rate	MATH Tested Students in 1 <sup>st</sup> Attempted Placed Course (Fall 2010 to Fall 2013)		College Wide Same Math Course (Fall 2010 to Fall 2013)	
	Enrolled Count	Success Rate	Enrolled Count	Success Rate
LERN48	727	64.51%	2504	67.05%
LERN49	3740	63.40%	8392	59.31%
MATH50	2723	71.02%	10687	58.96%
MATH51	1205	64.40%	11095	49.94%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8395</b>	<b>66.11%</b>	<b>32679</b>	<b>56.61%</b>

Aside from the possibility that the cut score may need to be adjusted to more appropriately place students in Math 50, another issue may be that students are not aware of what types of problems are on the test. This, along with the fact that many students have a lull between their last H.S. math class and coming to Mt. SAC may result in students being placed in a course that is lower than their actual ability and skill level.